

BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

In the matter of)	
)	
Request for Waiver and/or Appeal by)	
)	
Zapata County Independent School District)	
Zapata, Texas)	
)	CC Docket 96-45
Schools and Libraries Universal Service)	CC Docket No. 02-06
Support Mechanism)	
)	
Attention: Ms. Gina Spade, Deputy Division Chief)	
)	

**REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF DECISION OF THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE
ADMINISTRATION COMPANY, SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES DIVISION BY
ZAPATA COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR IN
THE ALTERNATIVE, REQUEST FOR A WAIVER OF SECTION 54.404(a)
OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES**

Funding Year 2006 (July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007)
Billed Entity Name: Zapata County Independent School District
Billed Entity No.: 141503
Billed Entity FCC Registration No.: 0012731899
Form 471 No.: 531511
Funding Request Number: 1517632

I. Introduction and Summary

Zapata County Independent School District ("Zapata CISD"), and in accordance with Sections 54.719(c) and 54.722 of the Commission's Rules, appeals a decision of the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC"), Schools and Libraries Division (the "SLD"). Specifically, Zapata CISD appeals or alternatively, requests a waiver of the USAC decision issued January 05, 2011, (EXHIBIT A) in which it affirmed a previous determination that the district's Form 471 filed with respect to its procurement of services did not comply with state and/or local competitive bidding guidelines and did not get board approval for the Internal Connections services, therefore, should not have been funded.

The undersigned is the Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") for Zapata County Independent School District ("Zapata CISD") located at 17th and Carla, Zapata, Texas 78076, a Texas school district which is an applicant under the Universal Service Support Mechanism ("E-Rate Program" or

“Program”) for the Schools and Libraries Division Support Mechanism (“SLD”), commonly known as the E-Rate program. This request comes before the Commission in a timely manner from the Administrator decision letter.

“After a thorough investigation, it has been determined that this funding commitment must be rescinded in full. During the course of the audit it was determined that the applicant failed to comply with the FCCs competitive bidding requirements. The applicant did not advertise in the local paper when and where submitted bids would be received and opened. Nor did the applicant get board approval for the Internal Connections services. According to the FCCs competitive bidding requirements, Applicants are required to follow state and local procurement requirements. Since the Applicant failed to comply with the procurement requirements, the commitment has been rescinded in full and USAC will seek recovery of any disbursed funds from the Applicant.”

During an attestation audit conducted in April, 2009 (Exhibit B), Ernst & Young found that Zapata CISD did not publish their notice of intent to purchase in the local newspaper. Zapata CISD respectfully submits that because of special circumstances, the newspaper advertisement was not placed in the local newspaper. Zapata County is a very small town with a population of 5,390 according to the July 2007 statistical publication with a newspaper circulation that is also very small. Two dominant special circumstances occurred that led this oversight of publishing in the local newspaper: 1) during this filing process, the district Coordinator of Technology, Mr. Gilbert Flores, was on active duty in Iraq for his second tour of duty. This made the application process impossible for the district to handle so they contracted with an outside consulting service to handle all of the E-Rate processes which led to 2) the second special circumstance: someone that was not familiar with the district or the state purchasing requirements handled the applications. We submit that the intent of the competitive bidding requirements were followed and we request an appeal of the decision to recover all funding for this FRN.

Secondly, the attestation audit also found that Zapata CISD did not get board approval for the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company services. Zapata CISD respectfully disagrees with this finding and has included board minutes in which the approval for all purchases was made (Exhibit C and Exhibit D respectively). The date of the board approval was on February 18, 2005 for this month to month contract, and the FCC Form 471 (531511) was filed and certified on March 9, 2009. Both special circumstances listed above are the direct result for the board approval letters not being found during the audit. We contend that had these two circumstances not been in effect, neither of the findings would have occurred.

For the reasons outlined in this document, Zapata CISD believes it has complied with the intent of its obligations to the best of their ability given the situation present at the time pursuant to both 47 C.F.R. § 54.504(a). The SLD’s decision in this case would cause Zapata CISD to be required to reimburse USAC for over \$42,461.40 which would cause undue hardship on the District. Such a result is contrary to the intent of the Telecommunications Act and is a wholly inequitable result. As such, the SLD’s determination of January 05, 2011 should be reversed by the Commission. In the alternative, Zapata CISD seeks a waiver of the Commission’s rules to allow Zapata CISD to retain the funding it received. In this case, granting a waiver would avoid

the inequitable result of forcing the District to reimburse the SLD despite the fact that Zapata CISD made every effort to comply with the Commission's rules and state and/or local requirements.

Sequence of Events and Background:

The C.F.R requires that all eligible schools seek competitive bids pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.404 for all services eligible for support under §§ 54.502 and 54.503, which include Email and Webhosting services. According to the C.F.R., "[t]hese competitive bid requirements apply in addition to state and local competitive bid requirements and are not intended to preempt such state or local requirements." *Id.*, § 54.404(a). The eligible school is required to post a Form 470 to the USAC Administrator (the "Administrator") which is then posted by USAC on its website seeking bids for the services at issue. *Id.*, § 54.404(b). Among other requirements, the District is required to review and evaluate the bids and accept the bid that is the most cost-effective but only after the Form 470 has been posted for at least 28 days. *Id.* Subsequently, an eligible school "shall, upon signing a contract for eligible services, submit a completed FCC Form 471 to the Administrator." 47 C.F.R. § 54.404(c). The "Form 471 shall be signed by the person authorized to order telecommunications and other supported services for the eligible school, library, or consortium and shall include that person's certification under oath" that, among other things, "[t]he entities listed on the FCC Form 471 application have complied with all applicable state and local laws regarding procurement of services for which support is being sought." 47 C.F.R. § 54.404(c)(vi). The certification corresponds with 47 C.F.R. § 54.404(a) statement that the competitive bid requirements apply in addition to state and/or local competitive bid requirements.

REQUEST FOR A WAIVER

In the event that the Commission does not grant Zapata CISD's appeal, the District requests, in the alternative, pursuant to Section 1.3 of the Commission's Rules, that the Commission grant a waiver of its rules to permit Zapata CISD to qualify under the Telecommunications Act. 47 C.F.R § 1.3. For the reasons detailed below, Zapata CISD believes such a waiver is equitable and consistent with the Act as well as prior Commission waivers relating to the filing of FCC Forms 470 and 471.

Section 1.3 provides that the Commission may waive its rules "if good cause therefore is shown." 47 C.F.R § 1.3. Generally, a waiver is appropriate if "*special circumstances warrant deviation from the general rule and such deviation will serve the public interest.*" *Northeast Cellular Telephone Co. v. FCC*, 897 F.2d 1164 (D.C. Cir. 1990);

"6. Generally, the Commission's rules may be waived for good cause shown. The Commission may exercise its discretion to waive a rule where the particular facts make strict compliance inconsistent with the public interest. In addition, the Commission may take into account considerations of hardship, equity, or more effective implementation of overall policy on an individual basis. Waiver of the Commission's rules is therefore appropriate only if special circumstances warrant a deviation from the general rule, and such a deviation will serve the public interest."

See also *WAIT Radio v. FCC*, 418 F.2d 1153, 1159 (D.C. Cir. 1969);

"The Commission may waive its rules 'for good cause shown'. To obtain a waiver of the Commission's rules, a waiver proponent must demonstrate either that: (i) the underlying purpose of the rule(s) would not be served or would be frustrated by application to the present case, and that a grant of the waiver would be in the public interest; or (ii) in view of unique or unusual factual circumstances of the instant case, application of the rule(s) would be inequitable, unduly burdensome, or contrary to the public interest, or the applicant has no reasonable alternative. An entity seeking a waiver faces a high hurdle and must plead with particularity the facts and circumstances that warrant a waiver."

A waiver is appropriate here because Zapata CISD complied to the best of their ability with the requirements of the Telecommunications Act and with state and local bidding requirements. In the event the Commission does not agree with the District that it complied with the letter and intent of 47 C.F.R. § 54.404(a), it should waive these rules and reverse the SLD's determination of January 05, 2011.

There is no evidence in the record that Zapata CISD engaged in activity intended to defraud or abuse the E-Rate program. Denying its requests for funding would create undue hardship, not serve the public interest, and prevent it from receiving E-Rate funding for work already performed by Southwestern Bell Company for services that are being used in the District in compliance with program rules. Accordingly, we feel good cause exists to grant Zapata CISD a waiver of section 54.504(a) of the Commission's rules. Additionally, Zapata CISD has put an Internal Control Plan (ICP) into place to keep such occurrences from ever occurring again. This ICP is an internal document that was developed as a result of the Ernst and Young audit that clearly sets forth strategies for all aspects of the E-Rate process with recognizable status, timelines, person responsible, and evidence of action within the document. Clearly, Zapata CISD has met the recommendations that were outcomes of this audit and subsequent report that was filed. We find this a 'best practices' type of document that will be utilized within the district for all future E-Rate activities.

CONCLUSION

Zapata CISD respectfully requests that the Commission reverse the SLD's determination of January 05, 2011 in which it affirmed a previous determination that Zapata CISD's Form 471 filed with respect to its procurement of Telephone services did not comply with TEA procurement policies, and, therefore, should not have been funded. In the alternative, Zapata CISD seeks a waiver as described herein, to allow Zapata CISD to retain the funding it received pursuant to the Funding Commitment Letter issued by the SLD on December 12, 2006.



Laura McCoy
Zapata County Independent School District
P.O. Box 158
Zapata, Texas 78076
Ph. (956) 765-3823 Ext. 2508

Respectfully submitted,

Laura A. McCoy
Chief Financial Officer
Zapata County Independent School District

Enclosures:

ExhibitA_SWB_COMAD.pdf

ExhibitC_BoardMeetingDocumentation.pdf



Exhibit A

Schools and Libraries Division

Notification of Commitment Adjustment Letter

Funding Year 2006: July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007

January 05, 2011

Carlos Alvarez

ZAPATA INDEP SCHOOL DISTRICT

117 Brown Springs Road

Montgomery, AL 36117

Re: Form 471 Application Number:	531511
Funding Year:	2006
Applicant's Form Identifier:	ERC-06-0261
Billed Entity Number:	141503
FCC Registration Number:	0012731899
SPIN:	143004662
Service Provider Name:	Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
Service Provider Contact Person:	Mike Swisher

Our routine review of Schools and Libraries Program (Program) funding commitments has revealed certain applications where funds were committed in violation of Program rules.

In order to be sure that no funds are used in violation of Program rules, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) must now adjust your overall funding commitment. The purpose of this letter is to make the required adjustments to your funding commitment, and to give you an opportunity to appeal this decision. USAC has determined the applicant is responsible for all or some of the violations. Therefore, the applicant is responsible to repay all or some of the funds disbursed in error (if any).

This is NOT a bill. If recovery of disbursed funds is required, the next step in the recovery process is for USAC to issue you a Demand Payment Letter. The balance of the debt will be due within 30 days of that letter. Failure to pay the debt within 30 days from the date of the Demand Payment Letter could result in interest, late payment fees, administrative charges and implementation of the "Red Light Rule." The FCC's Red Light Rule requires USAC to dismiss pending FCC Form 471 applications if the entity responsible for paying the outstanding debt has not paid the debt, or otherwise made satisfactory arrangements to pay the debt within 30 days of the notice provided by USAC. For more information on the Red Light Rule, please see "Red Light Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)" posted on the FCC website at http://www.fcc.gov/debt_collection/faq.html.

TO APPEAL THIS DECISION:

You have the option of filing an appeal with USAC or directly with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

If you wish to appeal the Commitment Adjustment Decision indicated in this letter to USAC your appeal must be received or postmarked within 60 days of the date of this letter. Failure to meet this requirement will result in automatic dismissal of your appeal. In your letter of appeal:

1. Include the name, address, telephone number, fax number, and email address (if available) for the person who can most readily discuss this appeal with us.
2. State outright that your letter is an appeal. Identify the date of the Notification of Commitment Adjustment Letter and the Funding Request Number(s) (FRN) you are appealing. Your letter of appeal must include the
 - Billed Entity Name,
 - Form 471 Application Number,
 - Billed Entity Number, and
 - FCC Registration Number (FCC RN) from the top of your letter.
3. When explaining your appeal, copy the language or text from the Notification of Commitment Adjustment Letter that is the subject of your appeal to allow USAC to more readily understand your appeal and respond appropriately. Please keep your letter to the point, and provide documentation to support your appeal. Be sure to keep a copy of your entire appeal including any correspondence and documentation.
4. If you are an applicant, please provide a copy of your appeal to the service provider(s) affected by USAC's decision. If you are a service provider, please provide a copy of your appeal to the applicant(s) affected by USAC's decision.
5. Provide an authorized signature on your letter of appeal.

To submit your appeal to us on paper, send your appeal to:

Letter of Appeal
Schools and Libraries Division - Correspondence Unit
100 S. Jefferson Rd.
P. O. Box 902
Whippany, NJ 07981

For more information on submitting an appeal to USAC, please see the "Appeals Procedure" posted on our website.

If you wish to appeal a decision in this letter to the FCC, you should refer to CC Docket No. 02-6 on the first page of your appeal to the FCC. Your appeal must be received by the FCC or postmarked within 60 days of the date of this letter. Failure to meet this requirement will result in automatic dismissal of your appeal. We strongly recommend that you use the electronic filing options described in the "Appeals Procedure" posted on our website. If you are submitting your appeal via United States Postal Service, send to: FCC, Office of the Secretary, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554.

FUNDING COMMITMENT ADJUSTMENT REPORT

On the pages following this letter, we have provided a Funding Commitment Adjustment Report (Report) for the Form 471 application cited above. The enclosed Report includes the Funding Request Number(s) from your application for which adjustments are necessary. See the "Guide to USAC Letter Reports" posted at <http://usac.org/sl/tools/reference/guide-usac-letter-reports.aspx> for more information on each of the fields in the Report. USAC is also sending this information to your service provider(s) for informational purposes. If USAC has determined the service provider is also responsible for any rule violation on the FRN(s), a separate letter will be sent to the service provider detailing the necessary service provider action.

Note that if the Funds Disbursed to Date amount is less than the Adjusted Funding Commitment amount, USAC will continue to process properly filed invoices up to the Adjusted Funding Commitment amount. Review the Funding Commitment Adjustment Explanation in the attached Report for an explanation of the reduction to the commitment(s). Please ensure that any invoices that you or your service provider(s) submits to USAC are consistent with Program rules as indicated in the Funding Commitment Adjustment Explanation. If the Funds Disbursed to Date amount exceeds your Adjusted Funding Commitment amount, USAC will have to recover some or all of the disbursed funds. The Report explains the exact amount (if any) the applicant is responsible for repaying.

Schools and Libraries Division
Universal Services Administrative Company

cc: Mike Swisher
Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

**Funding Commitment Adjustment Report for
Form 471 Application Number: 531511**

Funding Request Number:	1468705
Services Ordered:	TELCOMM SERVICES
SPIN:	143004662
Service Provider Name:	Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
Contract Number:	MTM
Billing Account Number:	
Site Identifier:	141503
Original Funding Commitment:	\$42,461.40
Commitment Adjustment Amount:	\$42,461.40
Adjusted Funding Commitment:	\$0.00
Funds Disbursed to Date	\$42,461.40
Funds to be Recovered from Applicant:	\$42,461.40

F02

After a thorough investigation, it has been determined that this funding commitment must be rescinded in full. During the course of the audit it was determined that the applicant failed to comply with the FCCs competitive bidding requirements. The Applicant did not advertise in a local paper when and where submitted bids would be received and opened. Nor did the applicant get board approval for the Internal Connections services. According to the FCCs competitive bidding requirements, Applicants are required to follow state and local procurement requirements. Since the Applicant failed to comply with the competitive bidding requirements, the commitment has been rescinded in full and USAC will seek recovery of any disbursed funds from the applicant.

F05

After a thorough investigation, it has been determined that funds were improperly disbursed on this funding request. During the course of an audit it was determined that the funds were disbursed in excess of products and/or services actually delivered to the applicant. Specifically, the applicant invoiced USAC in excess of the amount billed for the services provided by the service provider. FCC rules authorize USAC to disburse funds to service providers for providing supported services to eligible entities. These rules are violated if the Administrator is invoiced and funds are disbursed in excess of the services and/or products delivered to the eligible entity. In this situation, the applicant certified on the BEAR Form that discount amounts for which the applicant is seeking reimbursement represent charges for eligible services delivered to and used by eligible entities. Additionally, the applicant made a certification on the BEAR form stating that the discount amounts listed on the form were already billed by the service provider and paid by the Billed Entity Applicant on behalf of eligible schools, libraries, and consortia of those entities. Therefore, USAC has determined that the applicant is responsible for this rule violation and will seek recovery of the \$1,119.29 of improperly disbursed funds from the applicant.

F06

After a thorough investigation, it has been determined that funds were improperly disbursed on this funding request. During the course of an audit it was determined that funds were disbursed for products and/or services that were not delivered. During an audit it was determined that \$777.59 of funding was disbursed for 26 telephone numbers that were disconnected. FCC rules authorize USAC to disburse funds to service providers for providing supported services to eligible entities. These rules are violated if the service provider receives payment for services and/or products that it did not deliver to the eligible entity. In this situation, the applicant made the certifications on the BEAR Form listed below indicating that the services and/or equipment had been provided to the applicant. On the BEAR Form at Block 3, Item A, the authorized person certifies that discount amounts for which

the applicant is seeking reimbursement represent charges for eligible services delivered to and used by eligible entities. Therefore, USAC has determined that the applicant is responsible for this rule violation. Therefore, the USAC will seek recovery of the \$777.59 of improperly disbursed funds from the applicant.

C01

After a thorough investigation, it has been determined that funds were improperly disbursed on this funding request for products and/or services delivered outside of the relevant funding year. During the audit, an AT&T invoice was examined with a bill date of 8/19/07 and service dates of 8/19/07 through 9/18/07. The discounted amount of \$251.81 was submitted under this 2006 FRN in error. FCC rules require applicants to use recurring services within the relevant funding year, and to implement non-recurring services by the applicable deadline established by the Commission. In this instance, the applicant made the certifications on the BEAR Form listed below indicating that the services had been provided within the funding years applicable deadlines. On the BEAR Form at column 13 and Block 3 Item A, the authorized person represents to USAC that the products and services were delivered to the applicant within the applicable deadline for the relevant funding year. USAC has determined that the applicant is responsible for this rule violation. Therefore, USAC will seek recovery of the \$251.81 of improperly disbursed funds from the applicant.

ZAPATA COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
17th & Carla – P.O. Box 158
Zapata, Texas 78076-0158

2 Action:

TO: Board of Trustees

DATE: February 13, 2006

SUBJECT: Approval of E-rate Budget Yr 9

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/REASON FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION:

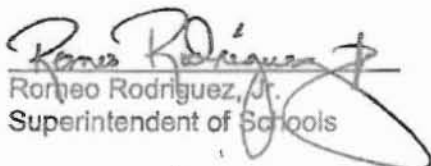
The E-rate or more precisely, the Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism – exists as a result of Section 254(h) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to provide discounts to assist most schools and libraries in the United States to obtain affordable telecommunications and Internet access.

Zapata County ISD Technology Department is requesting that the Board of Trustees approve the budget to pay our share of the discounts for the four service categories we are applying for in Yr 9:

- ❖ Telecommunications Services
- ❖ Internet Access
- ❖ Internal Connections
- ❖ Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections

* * * * *

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve
the E-rate Budget Yr 9 as presented.


Rorneo Rodriguez, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools


Gilberto Flores
Technology Support

9253

ZAPATA COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
17th & Carla - P.O. Box 158
Zapata, Texas

2 (a) Action: _____

TO: Board of Trustees

DATE: March 6, 2006

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF FEBRUARY 13, 2006

LOCATION: Professional Staff Development Center, 17th & Carla St., Zapata, Texas

School Board President Veronica P. Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

She stated that there was a quorum.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Romeo Rodriguez, Superintendent of Schools delivered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Texas Pledge.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Veronica P. Gonzalez	
Mrs. Dora O.S. Martinez	Mr. Armando Paredes
Mr. Zachary O. Garza	Mr. Jose M. Ramirez
Mr. Anselmo Treviño, Jr.	Mr. Ricardo X. Ramirez

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Staff members present included: Laura A. McCoy, Jose Luis Morales, Gerardo D. Montes, Rebecca Salinas, Connie Gray, Gilberto Flores, Jorge Montes III, Norma Garcia, Olinda Flores, Jose M. Flores, Maria G. Loza, and Juan J. Cruz, school counsel.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

1. SUPERINTENDENT'S REMARKS

None

2. Approval of E-Rate Budget Year 9

Mr. Gilberto Flores, Technology Specialist presented this item for Board approval. He informed the Board of Trustees that the E-rate or more precisely, the Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism – existed as a result of Section 254(h) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to provide discounts to assist most schools and libraries in the United States to obtain affordable telecommunications and Internet access.

He stated that Zapata County ISD Technology Department was requesting that the Board of Trustees approve the budget to pay our share of the discounts for the four service categories we are applying for in Yr 9:

- ❖ Telecommunications Services
- ❖ Internet Access
- ❖ Internal Connections
- ❖ Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections

Mr. Armando B. Paredes made a motion to approve the E-rate Budget Yr 9 as presented. Mrs. Dora O.S. Martinez seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Hearing - 2004-2005 Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) Reports

Mrs. Norma Garcia, Administrative Assistant informed the Board of Trustees that according to the Texas Education Code the Board shall hold a hearing for public discussion of the annual performance report within 90 days of receipt of the Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) report from the Texas Education Agency. She stated that the hearing may be and was being combined with a regularly scheduled meeting of the local Board of Trustees.

She expressed to the Board that administration was recommending that the Board conduct a hearing presented by central office administration for the purposes of public discussion of the Annual Performance Report.

Mr. Jose M. Ramirez, III made a motion to approve the hearing. Mr. Armando Paredes seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Norma Garcia proceeded with the hearing and reviewed and shared the 2004-2005 AEIS report with the Board.

Board President Veronica P. Gonzalez called for comments from the audience. There being no comments, Mr. Ricardo X. Ramirez made a motion to close hearing. Mrs. Dora O.S. Martinez seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board went into executive closed session at 6:55 p.m.
The Board returned to open session at 7:30 p.m.

Board President Veronica P. Gonzalez announced that no action had been taken in executive session.

In open session

4. Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Govt. Code, the Board will discuss Resignations, Retirements, and Leaves of Absence, New Employment, New Personnel Positions, Return from Leave of Absence, and Contract Renewal for Teachers

- Approval of Zapata South Elementary Principal
- Approval of Computer Specialist II

This item was discussed in closed session.
No action was taken.

5. Action, if any, on items discussed in closed session

- Approval of Zapata South Elementary Principal
- Approval of Computer Specialist II

9303b

Superintendent Romeo Rodriguez, Jr. announced that Mr. Pedro Morales was being recommended for the position of Zapata South Elementary Principal, effective the 2006-2007 school year

Mr. Ricardo X. Martinez made a motion to approve the recommendation as presented by Superintendent Rodriguez. Mrs. Dora O.S. Martinez seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Board Information Items:

7. Calendar:

Tuesday, February 21, 2006

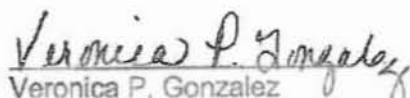
Regular Board Meeting
PDC Building 6 p.m.

8. Comments

None

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Zachary O. Garza made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Jose M. Ramirez III seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.


Veronica P. Gonzalez
President


Dora O.S. Martinez
Secretary

9303c



Zapata County Independent School District

Funding approval for E-rate Year 9

February 2006

Submitted by Gil Flores
Technology Support



Schools and Libraries Program

- ❑ Provides discounts to eligible schools and libraries for Telecommunications Services, Internet Access, Internal Connections, and Basic Maintenance
- ❑ Discounts range from 20% - 90% of the costs of eligible services, depending on the school's level of economic disadvantage as determined by the percentage of its students eligible for a free or reduced-price lunch
- ❑ Applicants must apply for discounts each year (Form 471 application filing window)
- ❑ Funding cap each year is \$2.25 billion



Category One: Telecommunications

- Priority 1 – Funded First

- District qualifies for 89%

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| □ Basic Telephone Service (POTS) | SBC |
| □ Fax Machine Lines | SBC |
| □ Long Distance Service | ATT |
| □ Cellular Service | Cingular |



Category Two: Internet Access

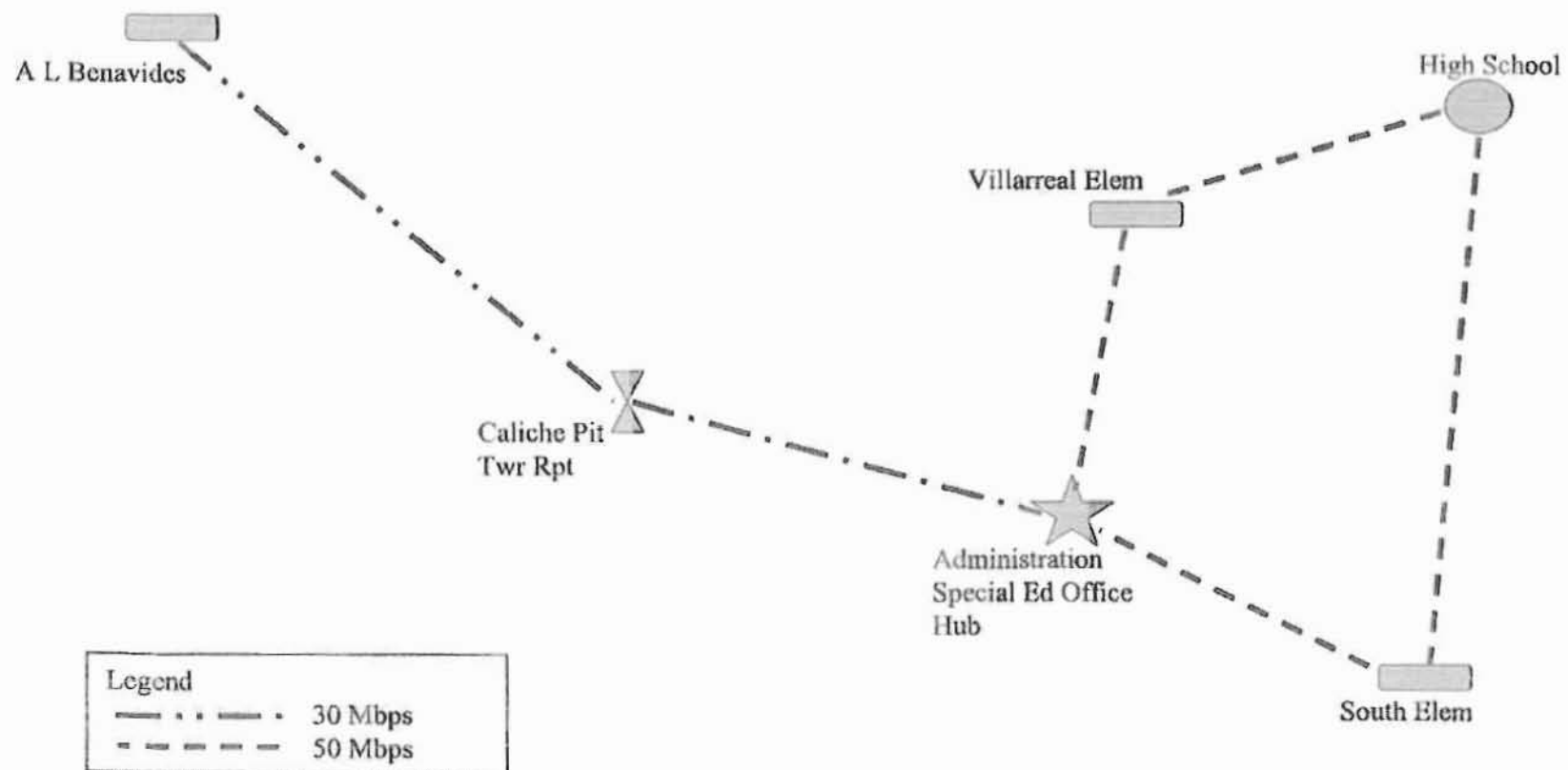
- Priority 1

- District qualifies for 89%

□ Internet Access	Trillion
□ Wireless Wide Area Network	Trillion
□ E-mail Services and Accounts Fees	eChalk
□ Web Hosting Service	eChalk



Proposed WAN Service Design



Category Three: Internal Connections

□ Priority 2

■ District qualifies for 89%

□ District Wide

Integrity

Zapata High School

Zapata Middle School

Fidel and Andrea R Villarreal Elementary School

Zapata South Elementary School

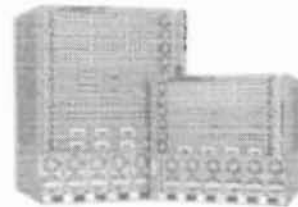
A. L. Benavides Elementary School

Zapata North Early Childhood Center



District Wide Infrastructure Project

- ❑ Rewire all the campuses with CAT6 drops, test and certify the networks
- ❑ Install new switching devices supporting Layer 3 Protocols
- ❑ Install Gigabit fiber backbone throughout campus's IDFs
- ❑ Build a solid foundation for the deployment of voice, video, and data





Questions

